

Docket No.: KCC-15,796



COMBINED DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

We, the inventors,

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declare that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification and claims of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/036,746 and we verily believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors or discoverers of the invention or discovery in

**NONABSORBENT SURGE LAYER HAVING DISCRETE REGIONS OF
SUPERABSORBENT AND METHOD FOR MAKING**

described and claimed in an application for Letters Patent of the United States having Serial No. 10/036,746, and a Filing Date of 21 December 2001; that we do not know and do not believe that this invention was ever known or used in the United States before our invention or discovery thereof; that to the best of our knowledge and belief the invention has not been in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to our application, or patented or made the subject of an inventors' certificate in any foreign country prior to the date of our application on an application filed by ourselves or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to our application in this country; that we

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acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a); and that no application for patent or inventors' certificate on this invention or discovery has been filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States, except as follows:

None

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Michael J. Bendel	Reg. No. 39,605	Douglas L. Miller	Reg. No. 30,406
Patricia A. Charlier	Reg. No. 38,840	Thomas M. Parker	Reg. No. 42,063
Thomas J. Connelly	Reg. No. 28,404	Sebastian C. Pugliese III	Reg. No. 42,091
Gregory E. Croft	Reg. No. 27,542	James B. Robinson	Reg. No. 34,912
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Steven D. Flack	Reg. No. 40,608	Patrick C. Wilson	Reg. No. 31,893
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PETITION

Wherefore we Pray that Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the specification and claims of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/036,746, and we hereby subscribe our names to the specification and claims of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/036,746, Declaration, Power of Attorney and this Petition.

DECLARATION

The undersigned further declare that all statements made herein of their knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

January 28, 2002

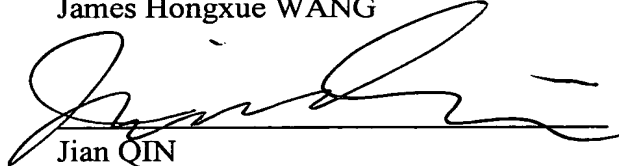
Date



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Jian QIN

January 30, 2002

Date



Jayant CHAKRAVARTY

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Date



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February 14, 2002
Date

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D. Keith Osteen
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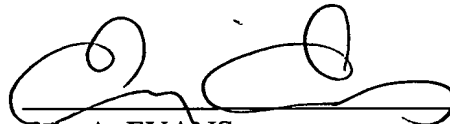
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